



Register Now!

Department of Fire Services

2008-2009 Senior Fire Officer Forums

- I. The Art of Reading Smoke** - often smoke issuing from a building is the only clue available to predict fire behavior and the likelihood of a flashover or rapid fire spread. First arriving officers, incident commanders, and safety officers **MUST** know how to rapidly read smoke – this class explains the reading-smoke process and gives participants practice using actual fireground video.

Speaker: David Dodson - is a 25-year fire service veteran. He is a Battalion Chief for the Eagle River Fire District in Colorado. Dave is the author of Delmar's Fire Department Safety Officer, 2nd Edition and a co-author of the *Firefighters Handbook*.

Course Number: 200-039-669 Session A

Date/Time: October 9, 2008 @ 1000-1500

Location: Devens Common Center, 31 Andrews Parkway, Devens, MA

Buffet Luncheon: \$16.00 (*Pre-registration is required through MFA and payable the day of the forum*)

Application Process: Complete [DFS/MFA Student Application](#), Sections A & B and fax to:

Registrar at (978) 567-3229 or

[Register on-line](http://www.mass.gov/dfs) at www.mass.gov/dfs

- II. Courage To Be Safe** –Firefighters must have the courage to face a multitude of risks in order to save lives and protect their communities. Their courage allows them to willingly risk their own lives so that others can be saved. A different type of courage is required to stay safe in potentially dangerous situations, avoiding needless risks and tragic consequences. This provocative presentation is designed to change the culture of accepting the loss of firefighters as a normal occurrence. The program promotes the courage to do the right thing in order to protect yourself and other firefighters and ensure that “Everyone Goes Home” at the end of the day. This moving presentation also conveys the untold story of LODD survivors, revealing how family members must live with the consequences of a firefighter death. The LODD survivors will tell their own stories in their own words to explain the impact of a fatality on the firefighter’s family, friends and coworkers. Their message is intended to change attitudes and cause firefighters to modify dangerous behaviors.

Speaker: Ron Siarnicki - is currently the Executive Director of the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation and is retired chief of department for Prince George’s County Fire and EMS, Prince George’s County, MD. Chief Siarnicki has a master’s degree in Management and Technology from the University of Maryland. He is a graduate of the National Fire Academy’s EFO program

Course Number: 200-039-670 Session A

Date/Time: December 3, 2008 @ 1000-1500

Location: Devens Common Center, 31 Andrews Parkway, Devens, MA

Buffet Luncheon: \$16.00 (*Pre-registration is required through MFA and payable the day of the forum*)

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III. Big Box, Warehouse and Commercial Building Fires - This four-hour presentation will be divided into four parts:

- An intro to each type of building and its purpose; the importance of pre-planning information.
- Review of building codes, building construction and fire protection.
- A look at the problem from a strategic, tactical and task analysis.
- Several simulations that allow the participants to play various roles in each of the three response levels.

This program will review different types of construction, materials, the cause and effect of smoke, heat and fire on the materials, as well as acts of weather created by Mother Nature. It will also cover several case studies of our successes and failures.

Speaker: Don Abbott - became a project manager for the Phoenix, AZ FD Command Training Center (CTC) in January of 2002. Previous to working for Phoenix Fire, Don successfully operated his own business, Command Emergency Response Training, Abbottville, AZ for over eight years. His "Abbottville" tabletop diorama was used as a tool to assist in training of over 200,000 emergency personnel across the United States. Don retired from the Warren Township FD in Indianapolis, as division chief of special operations and support services. During his 22 plus years with Warren Fire, he was instrumental in developing the Marion County HazMat Task Force and served as the organizations chairperson. He was chosen to be part of a team that traveled to Russia in 1992 to assist in teaching IMS and HazMat Response, and the next year he hosted two Moscow fire chiefs.

Course Number: 200-039-671 A

Date/Time: February 12, 2009 @ 1000-1500

Location: Devens Common Center, 31 Andrews Parkway, Devens, MA

Buffet Luncheon: \$16.00 (*Pre-registration is required through MFA and payable the day of the forum*)

Application Process: Complete [DFS/MFA Student Application](#), Sections A & B and fax to:

Registrar at (978) 567-3229 or

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IV. Charleston, SC Furniture Super Store, The Report – Chief Routely will present the report that he and a team of fire service professionals prepared on the Furniture Super Store Fire in Charleston, SC that claimed the lives of nine firefighters.

Speaker: J. Gordon Routely – is a retired fire chief and currently a program specialist with the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NFFF) and a liaison to the IAFC Safety, Health and Survival Section.

Course Number 200-039-672 Session A

Date/Time: March 12, 2009 @ 1000-1500

Location: Devens Common Center, 31 Andrews Parkway, Devens, MA

Buffet Luncheon: \$16.00 (*Pre-registration is required through MFA and payable the day of the forum*)

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V. Intergrated Risk Management (New Program)

Speaker: Gordon Graham - is a 33-year veteran of California Law Enforcement. During his tenure as law enforcement professional, he was awarded his teaching credential from California State University, Long Beach. He later graduated from University of Southern California with a Master's Degree in Safety and Systems Management. Subsequent to this he graduated from Western State University with a Juris Doctorate.

His education as a risk manager and experience as a practicing attorney, coupled with his extensive background in law enforcement, have allowed him to rapidly become recognized as a leading professional speaker in both private and public sector organizations with multiple areas of expertise.

Course Number: 200-039-673 Session A

Date/Time: May 14, 2009 @ 1000-1500

Location: Devens Common Center, 31 Andrews Parkway, Devens, MA

Buffet Luncheon: \$16.00 (*Pre-registration is required through MFA and payable the day of the forum*)

Application Process: Complete [DFS/MFA Student Application](#), Sections A & B and fax to:

Registrar at (978) 567-3229 or

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